

ACCURACY IN PRINTING.—It appears by calculations, made by the printer of "Steven's Edition of Shakespeare," that every page of that work, text and notes, contains 2,680 distinct pieces of metal, the misplacing of one of which would inevitably cause a blunder. With this curious fact before us, the accurate state of our printing in general is to be admired, and errata ought more freely to be pardoned than the fastidious immutability of the insect eye of certain critics has allowed.

The Legislature of Wisconsin have abolished the penalty for murder, and refused to enact a law prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors, which is the great cause of murder and all kinds of misery.

BROOM CORN.—Vast quantities of this corn are grown and converted to domestic use in this country. In the Valley of the Connecticut, many acres are devoted to its cultivation, and it pays a percentage to the producer. In the Mohawk Valley large quantities are also raised. Pennsylvania and Ohio are extensive producers of this useful plant. It would puzzle a Yankee to discover a substitute equally satisfactory. It is said to be a native of India, and its origin as a cultivated plant in this country is attributed to Dr. Franklin. He saw an imported whisk of this corn in the possession of a lady in Philadelphia, and while examining it curiously, found a seed, which he planted; and this is the small beginning of broom corn culture on this continent. If the Doctor possessed no other claims upon the grateful remembrance of posterity, the ladies surely should cherish his memory on this account.—*Poughkeepsie Telegraph.*

AN EXAMPLE FOR YOUNG MEN.—Twenty-three years ago, Professor Henry went to Albany from the country, as a teacher, upon a salary of \$6.00 a year. He was then a young man, with very limited means, and without family influence; but he had industry, integrity, undomitable energy, and a resolve to be somebody. He has worked his way up the hill of science, has now a world-wide reputation, and is a model man for the imitation of the young men of our country. What will not integrity and perseverance do for a man!—*New York Sun.*

SINGULAR OCCURRENCE.—On the 4th inst., a child eighteen months old, whose parents reside on Washington street, was bitten severely in the finger, by a cat. The mother had given the child a piece of bread-and-butter; and, while about her household duties, was alarmed by its screams. On hastening to where it was, she discovered that a cat had hold of the child's finger, and the child was endeavouring to shake it off. When the mother took the child up, she discovered that the cat was dead, but had its teeth and jaws firmly locked upon the finger. She had to make use of great force to liberate the finger from the cat's jaws, and succeeded after trying some time. The child was then taken to A. B. Shipman's office, in the Dilaye Block, where the wound was dressed. The finger was found bitten through the joint, and was much swollen, and very painful. The mystery of the case is the death of the cat at the instant of biting the child. The probability is, that the cat had eaten something poisonous, perhaps "strychnine," which had been designed for some unfortunate dog, and had taken effect at the instant it was helping itself to a piece of the bread and butter which the child had, seized its finger, and expired.—*Syracuse Journal.*

DEATH WHILE ON THE WAY TO THE ALTAR.—A young man by the name of Edmund Slattery, while on his way from Franklin to Mildford, on Sunday week, to be married, met with a singular and fatal accident. He stopped at a well to water his horse, when the bucket fell into the well. He descended to obtain it, when the wall caved in and buried him. He was a native of Ireland. His in-

tended wife was accompanying him on the journey, when this singular death intervened to destroy their bright anticipations.—*Woonsocket Patriot.*

A foulhardy young man leaped from the suspension bridge over the Cumberland river at Nashville. He miscalculated the distance and struck partly on his back, which caused severe injuries, but did not kill him. The height of the bridge from the water is 110 feet.



AGRICULTURE.

How to Preserve Potatoes from the Rot.

The statements from the subjoined article from the *Gardener's Chronicle* we deem more worthy of attention than the usual staple of suggestions, and recipes of the cure of the potatoe disease. Some of the facts stated seemed hardly reconcilable with current ideas of the laws of vegetable life; but the alleged results are such as to entitle the leading principle to a fair and extended trial.

Thoroughly dried potatoes will always produce a crop free from disease. Such is the positive assertion of Mr. Bollman, one of the professors in the Russian Agricultural Institution at Gorigoretzsky. In a very interesting pamphlet by this gentleman, which has just reached us, it is asserted, as an unquestionable fact, that mere drying, if conducted at sufficient high temperature, and continued long enough, is a complete antidote to the disease.

The account given by Professor Bollman of the accident which led to this discovery is as follows:—He had contrived a potatoe-setter which had the bad quality of destroying any sprouts that might be on the sets, and even of tearing away the rind. To harden the potatoes, so as to protect them against this accident, he resolved to dry them. In the spring of 1830, he placed a lot in a very hot room, and, at the end of three weeks, they were dry enough to plant. The potatoes came up well, and produced as good a crop as that of the neighboring farmers, with this difference only, that they had no disease, and the crop was, therefore, upon the whole most abundant. Professor Bollman tells us that he regarded this as a mere accident; he, however, again dried his seed potatoes, in 1831, and again his crop was abundant and free from disease, while everywhere on the surrounding land they were much affected. This was too remarkable a circumstance not to excite attention, and in 1832 a third trial took place. All Mr. Bollman's own stock of potatoes being exhausted, he was obliged to purchase his seed, which bore unmistakable marks of having formed part of a crop that had been severely diseased; some, in fact, were quite rotten. After keeping them for about a month in a hot room, as before, he cut the largest potatoes into quarters, and the smaller into halves and left them to dry for another week. Accidentally the drying was carried so far that apprehensions were entertained of a very bad crop, if any. Contrary to expectation, however, the sets pushed promptly, and grew so fast that excellent young potatoes were dug three weeks earlier than usual. Eventually, nine times the quantity were planted were produced, and, although the neighboring fields were attacked, no trace of disease could be found on either the herbage or the potatoes themselves.

This singular result, obtained in three successive years, led to inquiry as to whether any similar

cases were on record. In the course of the investigation, two other facts were elicited. It was discovered that Mr. Losovsky (living in the government of Witebsk, in the district of Sebege), had for four years adopted the plan of drying his seed potatoes, and that during that time there had been no disease on his estate. It was again an accident which led to the practice of this gentleman. Five years ago, while his potatoes were digging, he put one in his pocket, and on returning home, threw it on his stove (*poêle*), where it remained forgotten till the spring. Having then chanced to discover it, he had the curiosity to plant it, all dried up as it was, and obtained an abundant and healthy crop; since that time the practice of drying has been continued, and always with great success. Professor Bollman remarks that it is usual in Russia, in many places, to smoke dry flax, wheat, and rye, and, in the west of Russia, experienced proprietors prefer for seed onions that have been kept over the winter in cottages without a chimney. Such onions are called *dymka*, which may be interpreted smoke-dried.

The second fact is this:—Mr. Wasilefsky, a gentleman residing in the government of Mohileff, is in the habit of keeping potatoe sets all the year round by storing them in the place where his hams are smoked. It happened that, in the spring 1852, his seed potatoes, kept in the usual manner, were insufficient; and he made up the requisite quantity with some of those which had been for a month in the smoking place. These potatoes produced a capital crop, very little diseased, while at the same time the crop from the sets which were not smoke-dried was extensively attacked by disease. Professor Bollman is of opinion that there would have been no disease at all, if the sets had been better dried.

STOPPING PAPERS.—An exchange says, when a man gets mad and stops his paper, he always borrows the next number of his neighbour, to see if the withdrawal of his patronage hasn't killed the editor, and drest the columns in mourning. This grows out of the fact that none try to show their spite in this way, but the kind of people who imagine that the world rests on their shoulders.

If a proud man makes me keep my distance, the comfort is, he keeps his at the same time.

BIRTH.

In this city, on the 20th ult., the wife of Mr. J. Reading, of a daughter.

MARRIED.

On Thursday, 18th August, by the Rev. Dr. Poyer, Mr. John McIntosh, Hardware Merchant, to Miss Isabella Walton, daughter of the late Matthew Walton, Esq., all of this city.

In Brantford, on the 22nd ultimo, by the Rev. T. L. Davidson, Mr. James Burton, of Waterford, to Miss Maria Mills, of the township of Windham, both in the county of Norfolk. Also, Mr. Joshua Smith, to Miss Selena E. Jull, both of the township of Brantford, Brant County.

Baptist Books and Tracts.

A LARGE SUPPLY of Denominational Books and Tracts can be obtained at the Store of B. M. CLARK, No. 87, Yonge Street, Toronto. Toronto, July 1, 1853.

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